[*Note.*—**An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.**]

II.—STATEMENT OF THE HON. THE REVENUE MINISTER.

MR. PRESIDENT :—" Does the Hon. the Revenue Minister want to take leave of the House? "

* THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO :—" I really regret to take leave of you and the hon. Members of the House. I may expect to hand over charge on the 24th evening and will not be able to attend the session of the Council till the 22nd. Therefore, Sir, this will be the last occasion to see you and the hon. Members of the House. I most heartily thank you and the Members for the good co-operation you and the hon. Members gave me during the 22 months of my ministership. I very much thank you, Sir."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" In duty bound, I must inform the hon. Member that this House considers his going away from us as something which we will all regret. At the same time the fact remains that he is going out to engage himself in a bigger sphere to work and perhaps of wider service to the nation at large. It is with that view in my mind we will accept, and regretfully accept his withdrawal from the deliberations of this House in which he has taken a prominent part during the last two years. As Minister in charge of Revenue his presence has been very valuable and those of us who know how well he conducted the proceedings of the Zamindari Bill which is perhaps one of the biggest Bill dealt with by us in this House, will know the amount of application, the amount of interest and the amount of work, he has put into the Bill that passed through this House and it is now on the way of approval of His Excellency the Governor-General. I am sure that you and the hon. Members of this House will echo the sentiments which I am giving expression to that one and all of us do appreciate his valuable services to this House as Member representing Revenue. We wish him all God speed in his new sphere of activity and I am sure as far as this House is concerned we have to make this statement because he still continues to be a Member of the Assembly. But as far as this House is concerned as a Member of the Government of the Revenue Department he will discontinue and therefore I have found it necessary to make this statement, I have made. We all appreciate his work and one and all of us will follow with interest his activities in the wider sphere of service for the nation at Delhi."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" The Hon. Revenue Minister has an engagement with His Excellency at 11-30 a.m. and that is why I am disturbing the proceedings of the House."

* ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" On behalf of the Opposition, I very much regret that the Hon. Mr. Kala Venkata Rao is handing over charge of the Revenue portfolio. But we all feel there is an amount of happiness and joy also because he has taken upon himself the responsibility to work in a wider sphere. His appointment or his selection as the General Secretary of the Congress does credit not only to himself but also to the people of this Province. His ability, his tact and his perseverance in any

[Abdul Latif Farookhi Sahib Bahadur] [19th January 1949

matter that he takes up particularly the Zamindari Bill which he piloted in the other House and in this House has brought very great credit not only to himself but also to this Province. I am certain, Sir, that he will bring to bear on the Congress Organization the rich experience that he has gained not only in the national movement but in the Legislature as well. Sir, I once again mention that he really held the torch of independence in 1921 movement. In those days, Sir, there was a feeling of fellowship and a feeling of brotherhood which I am sure will continue in the independent India. I wish him God speed on behalf of the Opposition and also hope that this General Secretaryship of the Congress will be for him a precursor of great national honour and greater national service and sacrifice. Gentlemen like him will be remembered not only by this generation but also by posterity. Gentleman like him will have not only all-India and Provincial fame but destined to have international fame and I am sure that all of us will pray that he will be spared very long for national service and national activities. His presence in the All-India Congress Committee will be viewed with pride and we will be watching his activities with great interest."

11-15 a.m. K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—Mr. President, Sir, I have nothing to add to what has been said already. I only rise to associate myself on behalf of my party with the sentiments expressed by the Leader of the House and the Deputy Leader of the Opposition. We have all known the Hon. Mr. Kala Venkata Rao for his ardour and perseverance and how he had been able to handle very great complicated questions of revenue, and that is itself sufficient testimony to his ability. I do not want to take up much time of the House. I only feel sorry that he is leaving us; but it is a mixed feeling of joy and sorrow, and the consolation is that he is going away from us in response to the call of duty from a higher quarter. I wish him success in the activities which await him, which of course will give him wide and rich experience. Once more, Sir, I wish him success."

* SRI C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR :—" Mr. President, Sir, I wish to associate myself in this brief function. I wish the Hon. Mr. Kala Venkata Rao all joy and God speed in his new venture. But as the Leader of the House has indicated, he has not burnt his boats; he continues to be a Member of the other House, if not of this House, and that is good so far as it goes. So I am led to think that as soon as his work in the All-India Congress Committee is over, and perhaps at the time of the next elections he will come back to us with greater vigour and energy and conduct the affairs of this province in a greater and more efficient manner, unless of course he is wanted in a higher sphere of activity in the Central administration. Even then, when he comes back to us, we would welcome him with open arms and give him the responsible position due to him in this province. Sir, I wish him once again success in his new sphere of work."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" Mr. President, Sir, I am sorry I was late; but all the same, I feel it my duty to pay my compliments to

19th January 1949] [Dr. V. K. John]

the Hon. Revenue Minister. I remember I once said, after the passing of the Zamindari Abolition Bill, of him that he would be an ornament to any Government. Sir, the impression that he has left in me is—and in that my friends also share with me the same feeling—that he is one of those who sincerely want to do selfless service to the country. He has great achievements to his credit in the struggle for winning freedom to this country. He has won great credit to himself as a Member of this Government and I am sure in the new position he is to take up as secretary of the great national organization he will win more laurels and discharge his duties to the satisfaction of everybody, Congressmen and non-Congressmen and to the nation as a whole and he will take a leading part in the reconstruction of this country. I hope, after the achievement of freedom, he will do his best to build a new India on the foundations of unity, integrity and solidarity, which alone will give strength, prestige and greatness to this country. He will neutralize all forces of disintegration and harness and develop all forces of unity. We have great hopes for his future and that he would discharge his duties as secretary of a great organization efficiently and he will bring credit to south India; for although we should feel that we are Indians first and Indians last, nevertheless we shall always feel proud that he from the south, has been chosen to be one of the secretaries of the great organization and he will bring credit to south India. Sir, I congratulate him for what he has done and wish him all success in his new field of work."

Mr. PRESIDENT :—" It is very difficult to describe one's feelings on an occasion like this. The Hon. Mr. Kala Venkata Rao's services and qualities have been recognized not only in this House but outside this House. He has always been known for his very pleasing exterior and affable manners, and he has done his bit not only in the national cause of winning freedom for his country but also in the legislative field, which has fallen to his lot. I am sure his contribution to the legislative enactment of this Province will stand out as a momentous step in the direction of improving the economic condition of this Province. That is no mean achievement, and I am sure any Minister of any province in this great country would be proud of such an achievement as that. Now he is going to a perhaps higher position, though not higher in the sense of greater power and patronage, but higher in the sense that he has greater opportunities not only for serving the country, but also of directing and guiding the activities of various provinces which directly or indirectly will be under his supervision. I am sure the House will agree with me when I say that his association with this House has been pleasant. There has not been even a single instance of expression of bitterness of feeling by him either to me or to any Member. His association with this House has been very pleasing and very cordial. I wish him all happiness and prosperity. I am sure he will not be a stranger to this Province, as he will be a Member of the other House, and I am sure whenever we want him he will show himself up to us. (Laughter.) I wish him all happiness and prosperity."

[19th January 1949

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO :—" Sir, I thought this will be a simple leave-taking, and I never expected a shower of blessings and praise from my esteemed colleagues the Leader of the House, the Deputy Leader of the Opposition and Mr. Ibrahim and others, and more than anything else from the Chair. As my heart is full, I cannot speak more. I am very glad that I have the goodwill of all the Members of this House, which will certainly help me in the discharge of my future duties in the rebuilding and reconstructing of an independent India, but nonetheless a poor India practically in distress on account of the economic situation. I will not lose association either with Madras or this House, for I shall, even from that distance, carefully study what is going on here. I thank you for all the round of blessings you have given me. I shall carry with me this pleasant association throughout my life. I thank you."

(The hon. Sri Kala Venkata Rao then left the House.)

STARRED QUESTIONS

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS—*cont.*

Instructions regarding Communists.

* 168 *Q.*—SRI B. BHIMA RAO : Will the Hon. the Premier be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have issued any instructions to the Collectors and Police authorities in the mufassal defining 'Communism' and what political characteristics constitute a person a 'Communist'; and what characteristics differentiate a Socialist from a Communist;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that about twenty persons detained in the Vellore Central Jail as Communists have signified their loyalty to and expressed their intention to stand by and support the present Dominion Government of India and in favour of non-violence and adoption of constitutional methods; and

(*c*) whether the Government have considered their cases and ordered their release?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN (on behalf of the Hon. the Premier) :—" (*a*) No.

" (*b*) Yes.

" (*c*) The matter is under consideration."

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" How do the Collectors and District Magistrates act on the report that a certain man is a Communist, Sir? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" I do not follow the hon. Member's question."

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" What political views should a man hold or one should practise in order to be characterized as a Communist? "